

SELPA FINANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Standing Committee of the Consortium

February 27, 2023
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

SELPA Conference Room
1524 Magnolia Avenue; Redding, CA 96001

MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 3:00 pm

Christian Patz, SELPA Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

SELPA Finance Advisory Council members roll call:

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| ● David Flores, Shasta UHSD - Region1 | ABSENT |
| ● Donell Evans, Anderson UHSD – Region 2 | Present |
| ● Robert Fellingner, Redding ESD – Region 3 | Present |
| ● TJ Hurley, Enterprise ESD – Region 4 | Present |
| ● Cathleen Serna, Columbia ESD – Region 5 | Present (via Zoom) |
| ● De’An Chambless, Shasta COE – Region 6 | Present |
| ● Teresea Spooner, Fall River JUSD – Region 7 | Present (via Zoom) |

Others present were:

- Christian Patz, SELPA Executive Director
- Calli Coleman, SELPA Accountant

2. Approval of the Agenda

Discussion: None

ACTION: TJ Hurley motioned to approve the Agenda as presented. Robert Fellingner seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 6-0, no opposition, no abstentions, David Flores was absent.

3. Public Forum / Hearing of Person’s Wishing to Address the Finance Advisory Council

Discussion: None.

4. SELPA Director’s Report

4a. Board Budget Directions – Update

Discussion: Dr. Patz informed members of the SELPA Governing Board’s budget meeting on February 8, 2023 that the Board elected to keep federal ERMHS funds at the SELPA level though each district may still need to do separate GANs. Federal funds will still be used SELPA wide and continue BCBA funding. The Board also elected to fade funds to Fall River to reduce to zero in three years. Bridges

to Success program will also be faded beginning with a \$67k distribution next year, then fade to zero in three years. No other real changes were made.

5. SELPA Fiscal Update
5a. AB130 Update

Discussion: Calli Coleman, SELPA Accountant provided an update of the AB130 funds with the Agenda. No further discussion.

5b. 2022-23 Budget vs. Actual

Discussion: Calli Coleman, SELPA Accountant provided the current Budget vs. Actual with the Agenda. No discussion about budget versus actual.

Discussion continued when Dr. Patz provided an additional legal memo handout from School Services of CA regarding the drop in OOH funding. Page 3 of the handout included an OOH funding exhibit. Ms. Coleman stated OOH adjusted down to \$700k as expected, came in at \$1.1m for 22-23 and also for 21-22. Reserves will be reduced by a million. Ms. Chambless reminded members that the numbers are not a final for 22-23, but may not close at \$700k. Ms. Coleman agreed. Dr. Patz emphasized figures are based on number of beds filled, not the total available.

Ms. Coleman confirmed receipt of district plans for AB130 funds were submitted by the deadline, with a few still pending signed request forms. \$108k remaining balance spending to be determined. Dr. Patz intends to spend all. Ms. Coleman confirmed receipt of Enterprise ESD's submission.

6. Consent Items – *(These action items are of a routine nature or items for which no discussion is anticipated, and are acted upon by a single vote. Members may request that any item be removed and given individual consideration.)*

6a. Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2023

6b. Low Incidence Equipment Reimbursement Requests

6b1. LI Request #63 – Columbia ESD - Junction – OI Equipment TOTAL: \$1,619.37

Discussion: None.

ACTION: Robert Fellingner motioned to approve the Consent Items as presented. TJ Hurley seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 6-0, no opposition, no abstentions, David Flores was absent.

7. Allocation Model P2 ADA vs. 3 Year Average

Discussion: Ms. Coleman indicated the state is moving to a three year allocation model for P2 ADA attendance counts for resource allocation. Ms. Chambless stated AB602 changes by LEA, not SELPA wide, and the state will now take the highest of the last three years, not the average. Funding Changed for 22-23, this will look back from 22-23 two years to include 20-21, 21-22, and 22-23. This year's ADA will likely be higher since attendance better.

Ms. Spooner inquired if each district will be calculated differently. Ms. Coleman created a worksheet to calculate the highest of three years and will feed thru to the actual allocation calculated for each district individually. Ms. Chambless reminded members the handout is only an estimate and can't be used for budgeting. Dr. Patz asked members if the SELPA should change to this allocation model.

ACTION: De'An Chambless motioned to change the allocation model to the P2 ADA three year model. Robert Fellingner seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote 6-0, no opposition, no abstentions, David Flores was absent.

8. Spectrum Expansion – Discussion / ACTION

Discussion: Dr. Patz provided members a proposal just received from Spectrum Center to expand the NPS program to 3 or 4 classrooms AFTER the Program Advisory Council (PAC) meeting, so they have not reviewed it yet. Currently there is no NPS in town except for one high school class, and do have EXCEL as one step above NPS needs. Directors at the last Director/Coordinator meeting are in favor of expanding Spectrum, who is considering space in the Presbyterian Church on Placer to lease 3-4 classrooms for elementary, middle school and continue a high school class for kids with ED. There is a fair number of students grades 5-7 on the autism spectrum and extreme behaviors who are also in need.

Dr. Patz stated Spectrum wants a commitment the SELPA can fill classrooms and emphasized the billing will be a longer more complex conversation. Can use reserves for rate smoothing. Dr. Patz informed members the current Spectrum class has the wrong leadership in place and although it has had some successes with their teacher and paraeducators, the program has not been an overall success, so he is meeting weekly with leadership regarding his concerns. Districts didn't fill the 10-12 spaces as previously committed. The program is currently at 9 students who are not great attenders. The new program would be for 36-45 kids, including OOC students similar to IEP School.

Two proposal options provided: 1/ ED-Aut, 2/ ED only. Dr. Patz will pull data regarding 1/1 aids. Hanes Family Services opened group homes in state and confirmed he has three current requests looking for placements for one high school and two elementary students. Dr. Patz confirmed the facility is not beholden to DSA since not a school, which is not uncommon for nonpublic schools to be at churches, strip malls, etc. More akin to a charter who also isn't beholden to DSA.

Ms. Chambless inquired about district interest in program placements, as some may have already placed as needed or have already built program. Dr. Patz confirmed ADA would go to the district, and the district would pay for program use. SELPA will just contract, secure rates and secure minimum student attendance, much like at IEP School. Cost would be greater if we don't have the guaranteed 30-40 students. If we did contract for transport, would have to have 3-5 kids to secure a bus route at an additional cost. Mr. Fellingner confirmed they would have to follow bussing regulations and likely have districts cover their own transportation due to liability concerns.

Ms. Evans inquired about meals being provided by partner districts, as AUHSD provided meals for IEP School by contract. We would likely would need to speak with Redding ESD or SUHSD to provide meals for expansion. The thought is to have expansion with districts claiming ADA and paying expenses.

Dr. Patz will inquire if Tehama County SELPA will share proportional cost based on number of students placed. If SELPA guarantees \$1.5m, we can max at \$350 to districts, then SELPA pays the difference. Districts pay full cost, then come to RRC for subsidy. If 1/ daily rate is capped at \$300, for example; 2/ Then to RRC for \$300, SELPA could reimburse difference between max and actual. Dr. Patz emphasized that we would have to work out what SELPA could afford and how many students it would enroll. Ms. Chambless agreed and wants further input and data from districts before making a decision. Dr. Patz agreed to obtain more definitive numbers. All agreed it would be good to have a local NPS option but do have concerns of SELPA impact if the program is not filled. Ms. Spooner stated this is why Fall River JUSD received the subsidies because they don't benefit from local programs, and asked Dr. Patz to speak further with Brent Beyer.

9. SCOE Buses – Discussion / ACTION

Discussion: Dr. Patz stated that SCOE is planning to purchase new buses for their fleet. SELPA has previously purchased buses outright, or SCOE can buy and increase rates to districts. Ms. Chambless confirmed SCOE needs to replace 9-10 busses, and SpEd busses are more expensive. They previously bought 10 and spread over 7 years in charge backs. An option would be to spend down SELPA reserves. Mr. Fellingner and Ms. Hurley both confirmed high usage of SCOE for SpEd transportation. Ms. Evans voiced support, but wants to see actual impact to SELPA reserves, as Cascade doesn't use SCOE. Dr. Patz confirmed Shasta UHSD also uses SCOE busses. However, he likes having reserves in a downturned economy and prefers payments, although it increases costs to districts. Ms. Chambless agreed to bring more specific purchase costs, and confirmed SCOE is planning to order regardless to keep diesel bus purchases, as Cummins company is likely to pull out of CA. No action taken.

10. Regional Resource Committee Policy and Procedure – Discussion / ACTION

Discussion: Dr. Patz provided members a printed redline version handout provided and stated he is doing this to know how much they are allocating as quickly as possible in a timely fashion and, 2/ the policy needs to be updated to remove school and program names.

Ms. Coleman provided members a sample RTC / OOH claim form proposed by SCOE business services. Ms. Coleman stated business services was concerned districts weren't taking LCFF into consideration so this new claim form was created per her request, which now streamlines the RRC subsidy into a form for consistency. This would REPLACE current memo being submitted now. Will go to the Governing Board for approval. Ms. Coleman stated typical costs = \$300k/year per student. Different every time how funds are split. Ms. Coleman will remove column for number of students served and add note regarding attachments.

Redline revisions:

A/. See new proposed schedule to meet every quarter. Earlier would be best for subsidies, and need to review winter break schedule.

B/ Submission documents - to be an online form only.

C/. SELPA needs documents within 30 days of placement in order to accurately calculate subsidies.

D/ Now need to let SELPA know every school year in October meeting for all reviews, plus any new students. Point of the review process is so students don't languish in these programs. Want to avoid making IEP team decisions, not RRC. As SELPA, we can say we don't support that concept if placed for multiple years. Not the way the program is designed. Ms. Coleman recommends members speak with SpEd Director if subsidies are lower than expected. Dr. Patz stated the goal is to get districts their funds, but we still need to keep hard deadlines and accountability because it's a set dollar amount in the RRC fund subsidy, and it's not fair for districts who get things submitted on time. Will bring the procedure back as Consent item after PAC review.

Ms. Coleman inquired if each new district who receives a student submit a request. Dr. Patz confirmed yes, and will need to specify it in the procedure. Ms. Chambless noted that some items stricken need to stay – references to "subsidy" etc. Dr. Patz also noted that the procedure is changing from "MAY", to "MUST" bring referrals and reviews to RRC.

11. Future Agenda Items

- Busses
- Spectrum expansion / billing
- RRC Procedure (as Consent item)
- 2023-24 meeting schedule

12. Next meeting: Monday, April 24, 2023, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm, SELPA Conference Room

13. Adjourned - Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.